

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089396

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: HOSTILITY OF ETHIOPIAN GOVT. MEDIA

REF: A) ADDIS ABABA 4050; B) STATE 081225; C) ADDIS 4332

1.DEPT LEAVES TO YOUR JUDGMENT MOST APPROPRIATE TIMING FOR SUBMITTING LETTER TO CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTE ALONG LINES PROPOSED REF A. IN VIEW SECRETARY'S UPCOMING TRIP, YOU MAY WISH TO HOLD OFF SENDING LETTER AT LEAST UNTIL PROGRAM FOR HIS VISIT IS COMPLETE, OR PERHAPS UNTIL AFTER VISIT TAKES PLACE.

2. WHEN LETTER IS SENT, YOU SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING CHANGES IN YOUR DRAFT.

3. FIRST TWO PARAGRAPHS - NO CHANGE.

4. PARA THREE SHOULD BE CHANGED AS FOLLOWS: FIRST SENTENCE SHOULD READ: "...PAST FEW WEEKS, DESCRIBED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS AS AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS, HAVE SIMILARLY
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REFERRED TO AMERICAN MISSIONARIES AS IMPERIALISTS..."

FOURTH SENTENCE SHOULD BEGIN: "THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED IMMEDIATELY AFTER SEVERAL HARSHLY WORDED..."

5. IN PARA FOUR FIRST SENTENCE SUBSTITUTE WORD "REFLECTION" FOR "INDICATION". SECOND SENTENCE SHOULD NOW READ AS FOLLOWS "...CONTINUED PRESENTATION OF MATERIALS UNFAVORABLE TO AMERICANS AND TO THE UNITED STATES, I FEAR IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF YOUR CITIZENS MAY BELIEVE..."

6. SECOND HALF OF PARA FOUR SHOULD BE MADE INTO NEW PARAGRAPH STARTING WITH THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES: "WE HAVE TALKED SEVERAL TIMES IN THE PAST OF THE IMPORTANCE WE BOTH ATTACH TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND THE NECESSITY FOR US TO SPEAK FRANKLY TO EACH OTHER ABOUT ANY DEVELOPMENTS WHICH MAY AFFECT THEM. IT IS WITH OUR PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS IN MIND THAT I RAISE THIS SUBJECT AS I FEEL THAT THE CONSEQUENCES..." THE FINAL SENTENCE OF THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD END "...FRIENDSHIP THRIVES BEST IF RECIPROCATED."

7. FIRST PART OF FIRST SENTENCE, PARA FIVE YOUR DRAFT SHOULD BE OMITTED SO THAT SENTENCE BEGINS WITH WORDS "IN LINE WITH STATEMENTS..."

8. PARA SIX YOUR DRAFT SHOULD BE CHANGED AS FOLLOWS: SECOND SENTENCE SHOULD READ " HOWEVER, ITS FAILURE TO APPEAR IN ANY FORM CAN ONLY LEAD OBSERVERS TO QUESTION YOUR

GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO HAVE US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE RECEIVE APPROPRIATE MEDIA COVERAGE." IN LAST SENTENCE THIS PARAGRAPH SUBSTITUTE "EXISTED" FOR "BEEN SO OBVIOUS." KISSINGER

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